GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:309
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2001
ECOLOGICAL IMBALANCE IN EASTERN GHAT
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing ecological imbalance in Eastern Ghat;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for the same; and

(c) the steps taken to restore the ecological balance of Eastern Ghat?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (c) OF REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.309 BY BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB REGARDING `ECOLOGICAL IMBALANCE IN EASTERN GHAT` DUE FOR REPLY ON 13.8.2001.

(a) to (c) : Government has not come across any comprehensive study indicating ecological imbalances in Eastern Ghat. Ecological imbalances denote changes in eco-systems structure and function due to anthropogenic and other related factors. These include habitat degradation and fragmentation, modification of climate, soil degradation and air and water pollution. However, Government keeps a close watch on all ecologically sensitive regions including the Eastern Ghat. The Ministry is implementing various schemes and programmes aimed at maintenance of the ecological balance in ecologically sensitive areas including Eastern Ghat. Some of the important schemes being implemented include abatement of pollution, afforestation and eco-development, in-situ conservation through protected area network, conservation of wetlands, environmental impact assessment of developmental projects, reclamation and rehabilitation of mined areas, and treatment of catchment areas.